STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 98-181

December 28, 1999

SANDY POINT WATER COMPANY Proposed Rate Increase

ORDER APPROVING
AMENDMENT TO
STIPULATION AGREEMENT

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

I. SUMMARY

In this Order we approve an amendment to the Stipulation approved by our January 19,1999 Order in this case. The parties to that Agreement were the Sandy Point Water Company (Company), the Office of Public Advocate, Holly and Richard Stover, John L. McDonough, The Hersey Retreat, Jane and David Sprague and Julian McGovern. The Amendment to Stipulation Agreement was signed by all parties and is dated September 28, 1999. It provides for an increase in the allowed Phase II revenue requirement.

II. BACKGROUND

On January 19, 1999, the Commission issued an Order Approving Stipulation that provided for a formula for determining the revenue requirement for a Phase II rate increase based upon an anticipated loan of no greater than \$60,000. Since the Order, the Company has received bids on its improvement project and now requires a \$75,000 loan. The September 28, 1999 Amendment to Stipulation Agreement changes the loan amount to \$75,000 and provides for yearly payback to cover the total annual cost of the loan.

III. DECISION

We have reviewed the Amendment to Stipulation Agreement and find that it provides a reasonable resolution to the issues in this case and allows the Company to make improvements necessary under the Safe Drinking Water Act. We will approve the Amendment to Stipulation Agreement.

Accordingly, we

ORDER

1. That the Amendment to Stipulation Agreement, attached hereto, is approved;

2. That the revised schedule of rates, consisting of Sheet 1- Third Revision, filed on December 22, 1999, shall become effective on January 1, 2000.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 28th day of December, 1999.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch

Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

- 1. <u>Reconsideration</u> of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
- 2. <u>Appeal of a final decision</u> of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73, et seq.
- 3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.